

***“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”***

**MINUTES**

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board

January 15, 2004

**Meeting held at:**

City Administration Building  
202 “C” Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Mailing address is:**

City of San Diego  
Park & Recreation Board  
202 “C” Street, MS 9B  
San Diego, CA 92101

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Members Present**

Jim Austin, Chair  
Ginny Barnes, Vice Chair  
Faith Bautista (2:11 arrival)  
Dan Coffey  
Kevin Faulconer  
Norman Greene  
Dan Mazzella (2:04 arrival)  
Bob Otilie (2:09 arrival)  
Robert Robinson

**Members Absent**

Darlene Gould Davies  
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds

**Staff Present**

Mike Behan  
Bill Deloatch  
June Dudas  
Mark Marney  
Kevin Oliver  
Ellen Oppenheim  
Sally Pearson

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Austin called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION      MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Coffey/Mr. Faulconer**

The Minutes of November 20, 2003 were unanimously approved by the Board.

**REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE**

None.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**COMMENTS OR ADDITIONS**

None.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

None.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Ms. Oppenheim reported on the following:

SignOnSanDiego has identified San Diego's 2003 favorites and several City Park & Recreation facilities were honored:

- Best Surf Spot Category – Tourmaline Surfing Park was voted the Editorial Winner and Sunset Cliffs Natural Park was voted the Audience Winner.
- Best Park Category – Balboa Park was voted the favorite park as both the Editorial and Audience Winner.
- Best Golf Course – Torrey Pines was voted the favorite course as both the Editorial and Audience Winner.
- Best Skate Park – Robb Field in Ocean Beach was voted the favorite as both the Editorial and Audience Winner.
- Best Trail – Cowles Mountain was voted the favorite.
- Best Dog Park/Beach Category – Nate's Point in Balboa Park was voted the Editorial Winner and Dog Beach in Ocean Beach was the Audience Winner.

Park Ranger Mel Naidas from Mission Trails Regional Park was selected as one of seven volunteers to receive the Volunteer of the Year Award by STAR/PAL. He was recognized at a recent Chargers game for his nature and safety education outreach program for local youth and their families. Congratulations Mel!

Upcoming Events:

- January 15 – 18, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., we will be hosting an indoor youth and adult wheelchair soccer tournament at the Balboa Park Activity Center.
- January 29, 3:00 p.m. is when we will host a grand opening for the Memorial Skate Park. This is the second skate park to open in the City.

If you saw or received an invitation to the Capehart Park Off-Leash Grand Opening originally scheduled for January 16, that event has been postponed due to a fungus found in the turf. We will let you know when it is rescheduled.

If you are interested in attending the upcoming Buick Invitational Golf Tournament at Torrey Pines, tickets are available through the Park and Recreation Department for only \$12.00 per person. Contact June Dudas at 619-525-8235 for details.

As you know, we recently assumed management responsibilities for the Mission Bay Golf Course and Driving Range. We are very pleased with the upgrades that have been made and are actively promoting the course to increase usership.

A budget report will be presented at the next meeting. At that time, we should have a better understanding of what the uncertainties are at the state and local levels. The report will also include any budget direction we have received to date.

## **FRIENDS OF PARKS**

Mr. Wilbur Smith reported on the upcoming annual Golf Tournament that is held to raise funds for Park and Recreation programs. This year the tournament will be held on Saturday, May 8, on the South Course at Torrey Pines Golf Course. Sponsorships are still needed.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent**

A motion was made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Coffey to approve on consent the following action items:

- 102. Presidio Park Restrooms/Picnic Area/Parking Lot – General Development Plan**
- 103. Grantville Neighborhood Park – Play Area Upgrade**

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Adoption**

- 101. Balboa Park Promenade – Approval of Amendments to the Balboa Park Master Plan, Central Mesa Precise Plan, and the Progress Guide and General Plan (continued from the November 20, 2003 meeting)**

A brief presentation was given by Mr. Mark Marney, Project Officer with the Park Planning and Development Division of the Park and Recreation Department, highlighting the areas of concern expressed by the Board members at the two previous meetings (October 30, 2003 and November 20, 2003): design related issues and project financing. The applicant and consultant team have prepared an outline of possible financing options for the Balboa Park project and this report was mailed to all Board members prior to this meeting. He further reported that this item was reviewed and approved by the Balboa Park Committee with forty-one recommendations. The Design Review Committee reviewed and approved this item and agreed with the forty-one recommendations made by the Balboa Park Committee and added some additional recommendations of their own.

Mr. David Watson, Attorney for the Zoological Society, explained that the Zoological Society has agreed not to devise a financing plan only for the Park Boulevard Promenade project, however, it has developed some preliminary information on how a parkwide financing plan might work. The outline was created to illustrate how different revenue sources might be used but does not represent the Society's opinion or preference. Mr. Watson opined that it would take approximately one year to develop a financing plan and that would occur only after extensive public input, stakeholder meetings to analyze all the financing options, and the involvement of City staff and financial consultants.

Mr. Watson also addressed another concern expressed by the Board members regarding the public input process, specifically for residents in the surrounding neighborhood (Marston Hills). His records indicate that meetings began in late 1998 and have continued since that time. The Working Group, comprised of 39 members of which 4 were residents of Marston Hills, met twice weekly during the year 2000 and also held a public design charrette. Prior to that, in late 1998 to 1999, twelve official meetings were conducted with all community planning groups, the Balboa Park Committee, the Historical Resources Board, the Planning Commission and a briefing was provided to the Park & Recreation Board. Subcommittees were also formed and met. An additional 8 meetings were held in 2001, 33 in 2002, and through July 2003, 15 community meetings were conducted – this does not include one-on-one meetings or small group meetings that were also held. Letters were sent to residents in Marston Hills responding to issues and making them aware that the Zoological Society was available if they had questions.

Mr. Mark Johnson, from Civitas, working with the Jones and Jones team on the Balboa Park Land Use, Circulation and Parking studies, reported on the status of their work over the past 10 months. In the near future, the Balboa Park Land Use, Circulation and Parking Study will be coming before the Park and Recreation Board and the Planning Commission. It will then proceed to City Council to request the initiation of a plan amendment so that the work being done now could start to take the form of an amendment to the Balboa Park Master Plan that would then set the context under which the financing discussion would take place.

The Chair opened the floor to comments from the Board members.

**MOTION      MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Barnes/Mr. Greene**

A motion was made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Greene to approve the proposed amendments to the Balboa Park Master Plan, Central Mesa Precise Plan, and the Progress Guide and General Plan as described in the Park Boulevard Promenade Project; as amended by the exclusion of Sheep and Goat Canyon; as amended by the Balboa Park Committee recommendations; as amended by the Design Review Committee recommendations; and as amended by the commitments made by the Zoo at the last three Park and Recreation Board meetings about such things as: 1) the Rose Garden issues described today; 2) the 3200 – 4800 parking space size of the parking structure, and 3) that prior to Council or public consideration of a financing proposal to implement the Park Promenade Study and/or the Jones and Jones Study, that any such proposal will be brought to this Board for approval.

Vote: 6-2-1 (Mr. Mazzella & Mr. Robinson were opposed; Mr. Austin did not vote) The motion passed.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

None.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Balboa Park Committee**

Mr. Mazzella reported that a public forum will be held tonight in the Balboa Park Club Ballroom with the Jones & Jones Consultants to discuss the Balboa Park Land Use, Parking and Circulation Study.

### **Central Area Committee**

No meeting.

### **City Lakes Committee**

No report.

### **Coastal Area Committee**

No meeting.

### **Design Review Committee**

No report.

### **Los Penasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee**

Meets this evening. No report.

### **Mission Bay Park Committee**

Mr. Faulconer reported that two meetings have been held since the committee was reconstituted. A Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, January 17 with the Mission Bay Park Committee members to talk about their goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Financing for the improvements stated in the Mission Bay Park Master Plan will also be discussed.

### **Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee**

No report.

### **Northern Area Committee**

No meeting.

**Southern Area Committee**

No meeting.

**Tecolote Canyon Natural Park**

Meets tonight. No report.

**Wetlands Advisory**

Meets tonight. No report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

**The next scheduled meeting is:      Thursday, February 19, 2004**

City Administration Building  
Council Committee Room  
202 "C" Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Diego, CA 92101

Submitted by,

Ellen Oppenheim  
Staff Representative

EO:sp

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